

650,000+

# California Lesbians

*Citizens, Taxpayers, Consumers*

*Mothers, Daughters, Spouses, Aunts,  
Cousins, Nieces, Friends, Coworkers,  
Teachers, Doctors, Lawyers, Soldiers,  
Nurses, Secretaries, Waitresses, Politicians,  
Police, Firefighters, Pastors, Rabbis...*

The 2006 average household income for California lesbian couples was \$65,000  
32% of California lesbians are parents 70,000 California children are raised by  
same-sex parents 58,000 of those children are biologically related to the parents  
The 2006 combined buying power of U.S. gay and lesbian consumers was  
estimated at \$641 *billion!* There are 136,821 Gay and Lesbian veterans in  
California and 65,000 gays and lesbians serve proudly in the active and reserve  
US Military According to 2006 U.S. Census Bureau figures it is estimated that  
there are 1,348,929 gays and lesbians in California - more people than in the  
cities of San Francisco and Sacramento combined!

## *To not be counted is to be discounted*

"I still hear people say that I should not be talking about the rights of lesbian  
and gay people and I should stick to the issue of racial justice, but I hasten to  
remind them that Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to  
justice everywhere.' Homophobia is like racism and anti-Semitism and other forms  
of bigotry in that it seeks to dehumanize a large group of people, to deny their  
humanity, their dignity and personhood. We are all tied together in a single  
garment of destiny . . . I can never be what I ought to be until you are allowed to  
be what you ought to be. I've always felt that homophobic attitudes and policies  
were unjust and unworthy of a free society and must be opposed by all

Americans who believe in democracy,"

- Coretta Scott King - Reuters, March 31, 1998

*Presented to The Commission on the Status of Women  
by Commissioner Elaine Suranie, July 26, 2007*